

PLO mutineers' ranks swelled

DAMASCUS (R) — Six middle-ranking commando officers in charge of supply depots Saturday joined dissidents in eastern Lebanon opposed to Yasser Arafat's leadership of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), a rebel spokesman said. The spokesman, Jihad Saleh, said all six, who include a major and three captains, were members of the supply corps and had proclaimed their depots under dissident control. The Fatah leadership, in a bid to bring the rebels to heel, has cut off their supplies and pay, but the dissidents who joined Saturday said they would distribute supplies to everyone in Fatah. In a statement distributed at a news conference held in the Damascus office of the Soviet-Palestinian Friendship Society, the officers said they had joined the movement "to put an end to corruption and deviation in Fatah."

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Algeria, Morocco restore air links

PARIS (R) — Regular flights will be restored early next month between Algeria and Morocco following an agreement signed during a visit to Rabat this week by Algerian Interior Minister Mohammad Hadji Yala, the Algerian news agency reported. Flights operated by the two countries' airlines were suspended after tension arose between Morocco and Algeria over the fate of the formerly Spanish Western Sahara in 1976. But bilateral relations have gradually improved since the first summit talks between Algerian President Chadli Benjedid and King Hassan of Morocco last February.

Brezhenski holds talks in Kuwait

KUWAIT (R) — Kuwaiti Foreign Minister Sheikh Al Ahmad Al Sabah held talks Saturday with former U.S. National Security Advisor Zbigniew Brezhenski on the Gulf war and the Middle East situation, officials said. Mr. Brezhenski, who arrived here Friday night at the start of a fact-finding mission to several Gulf states, is expected to leave for the United Arab Emirates Sunday.

'Assad made secret visit to Moscow'

BEIRUT (R) — A left-wing Lebanese newspaper reported Saturday that Syria's President Hafez Al Assad made a secret visit to the Soviet Union last weekend. The report in Al Safir said Mr. Assad discussed the tense situation in Lebanon where Israeli and Syrian forces are arrayed against each other.

Quake rocks Ahwaz

LONDON (R) — A powerful earthquake shook the area around Ahwaz in southwest Iran Saturday, but there were no immediate reports of damage or loss of life, the Iranian news agency IRNA reported.

Gandhi to visit troubled Punjab

NEW DELHI (R) — Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi will make a one-day visit to the northern state of Punjab Saturday apparently as part of a bid to counter a protest campaign by Sikh militants. Mrs. Gandhi is due to address three public meetings in the state where the Sikh Akali Dal Party plans to launch a new phase of its campaign for religious and political concessions from the government next month.

Gulf, Sana'a discuss reconstruction aid

SANA'A (R) — North Yemeni Prime Minister Abdul Karim Al Aryan and Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) Assistant Secretary-General for Political Affairs Ibrahim Al Sobhi held talks Saturday on the council's aid for reconstruction of earthquake damage in Dhahar province, officials here said. The area was devastated by earthquakes last December which killed at least 3,000 people and made some 400,000 homeless. Government officials have said the impoverished Red Sea state would need hundreds of millions of dollars to finance reconstruction.

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Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation
جordan Times — جريدة سياسية независимая عن المؤسسة الصحفية الاردنية "الرأي"

Fatah delegation to visit Moscow

DAMASCUS (R) — A delegation from the biggest Palestinian commando group, Fatah, will visit Moscow next week at the invitation of the Soviet leadership, the Palestinian news agency WAFA said Saturday. The delegation will be led by a senior Fatah official, Salah Khalil, popularly known as Abu Iyad, the agency said. WAFA said the visit was part of "strengthening relations between Fatah and the Soviet Union at a time of increasing American-Zionist conspiracy against Fatah and the Palestinian resistance movement." Fatah, largest of the eight commando organisations comprising the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), was shaken this month by a peaceful revolt by five officers opposing what they regard as excessively moderate policies by Yasser Arafat, leader of both Fatah and the PLO.

Heavy shelling reported around Lebanese capital

Israeli jets run into fire

BEIRUT (R) — Israeli planes ran into gunfire over Lebanon Saturday, deepening the crisis atmosphere generated by intensive confrontation between Syrian and Israeli armies.

It was not clear who put up the anti-aircraft fire, but security sources said it could have come from Palestinians who are manning the front alongside Syrians.

Some relaxation of tension came with an announcement in Damascus that Syria's forces had ended spring manoeuvres and returned to a regular footing.

The manoeuvres had prompted Israel to place its own troops in Lebanon on full alert. In Lebanon and abroad there was strong apprehension that a wrong move on either side could turn this country once more into a battleground.

Saturday's aerial encounter was over the Bekaa Valley where the

(Continued on page 3)

Arens: Israel will not be drawn to war of attrition

TEL AVIV (R) — Defence Minister Moshe Arens said Saturday Israel would not allow itself to be drawn into a war of attrition and warned that, if Syria started hostilities Israel would dictate their scope and direction.

"We don't know whether

Speaking on Israel Radio, Mr.

(Continued on page 3)

Damascus says Syrians will fight if they have to

DAMASCUS (R) — Syrian Prime Minister Abdul Rauf Al Kasm said Saturday Syria would not accept Israeli military threats and declared: "We shall fight if we have to."

He said: "Threats of Israeli military aggression against Syria are mounting daily. Syria will not accept threats nor will it back down on its Arab nationalist stand."

Mr. Kasm said Syria, backed by

(Continued on page 3)

Abu Jihad calls for Arab financial support for PLO

AMMAN (R) — A top Palestinian commando leader said Saturday the movement was running short of cash and urged Arab states to provide more money.

Khalil Al Wazir, popularly known as Abu Jihad and second-in-command of the Fatah commando force of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), made the plea on arrival here for a Jordanian-Palestinian conference.

Abu Jihad told Reuters he would discuss the problem of Arab states who have not fulfilled their financial commitments to support resistance in Israeli-

occupied Arab territory. He added, has resulted in a sort of financial deficit."

He said the conference, held by the Jordanian-Palestinian Committee for Supporting the Steadfastness of People in the Occupied Territories, would examine ways of urging Arab countries to bolster their support for the Palestinian cause.

Abu Jihad said Israel was allocating more funds to expand its presence in the West Bank. Arabs should multiply the financial and moral support needed to strengthen Palestinian resistance, he added.

Moscow warns of tough response to Euromissiles

MOSCOW (R) — The Kremlin warned the West Saturday it would regard new U.S. missile deployment in Europe as the start of an arms race and indicated it was ready to station its own missiles beyond Soviet borders in reply.

A government statement, coi-

ncing with the opening of a Western economic summit in Williamsburg, Virginia, said cruise and Pershing-2 missiles in Europe would pose an increased threat to the Soviet Union.

This would have to be cou-

(Continued on page 3)

Mauroy predicts 18 months of austerity

PARIS (R) — At least 18 more months of austerity for France were predicted by Prime Minister Pierre Mauroy Saturday at a Socialist Party conference marked by sharp discord.

The meeting at Pre-st-Gervais outside Paris came as President Francois Mitterrand left for the Western economic summit at Williamsburg, Virginia, where he will urge Washington to curb its budget deficit to ease pressure on the

franc.

On Friday, the franc plunged to a record low of 7.53 to the dollar amid growing concern in France that the government's austerity programme, masterminded by Finance Minister Jacques Delors last March, appeared heading for collapse.

In a scathing attack Saturday on the austerity programme of higher taxes and currency restrictions, left-wing socialist dissident

Jean-Pierre Chevenement, former industry minister, said the Delors plan could not succeed.

But Mr. Mauroy countered: "We must continue. The rehabilitation of our economy requires at least 18 months. We will take care of this because we have the time to do so."

Mr. Chevenement leads a faction of party leftists who say the government made a wrong move in March.



LEADER AMONG FIGHTERS: Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat pours a glass of water Thursday during a visit he made to the Bekaa Valley in east

Lebanon, where an estimated 6,000 PLO fighters are stationed. To Mr. Arafat's right and front are two young Yugoslav volunteers who have joined the Palestinian movement (A.P. wirephoto)

U.S. renews appeal for withdrawal

WASHINGTON (Agencies) — The U.S. State Department said Friday night a buildup of Syrian forces in Lebanon and along the Syrian border could "threaten the uneasy peace that now prevails in Lebanon."

The statement was issued after Acting Israeli Ambassador Benjamin Netanyahu called on Secretary of State George Shultz to discuss the situation in Lebanon. Israel has agreed to pull its troops out of the country if the Syrians withdraw at the same time.

"We call on those who are exacerbating the tensions to exercise the utmost restraint so that the risk of a conflict can be reduced," the statement said.

"The interests of all would be served by a timely withdrawal of all forces from Lebanon so that country can reassess its authority throughout its territory."

Following is the full text of the statement:

The Syrian build-up of forces in Lebanon and along the Syrian-Lebanese border can lead only to increased tensions in an already volatile area, and could threaten the uneasy peace that now prevails in Lebanon.

"We call on those who are exacerbating the tensions to exercise the utmost restraint so that the risk of conflict can be reduced. Renewed armed conflict serves no one's interests."

"The interests of all would be best served by a timely withdrawal of all foreign forces from Lebanon so that that country can reassess its sovereignty throughout its territory."

NATO 'regrets' Soviet remarks on Euromissiles

BRUSSELS (R) — The North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO) said Saturday it regretted Moscow's statement that it would station more nuclear weapons in Europe if the United States deployed new missiles.

Diplomats said that it could chill the climate of arms talks.

A spokesman at NATO headquarters said that alliance defense ministers would discuss a detailed reaction to Friday night's Soviet warning against the deployment of cruise and Pershing missiles at a scheduled meeting here later this week.

He said that the warning, which also hinted that Soviet missiles could be put into other Warsaw Pact countries, was not the first time that the Soviets had made such threats.

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Turkish military thrust into Iraq appears over

ANKARA (R) — A cross-border thrust into Iraq by Turkish troops, apparently aimed at smashing groups of Kurdish rebels, seemed to be over Saturday.

The Turkish Foreign Ministry reported Friday that a limited operation had been launched into Iraqi territory to capture armed groups which it said had recently made many attacks in the remote, mountainous region.

Official sources said more than 2,000 men were involved and had penetrated about 30 kilometres

(Continued on page 3)

A word of appreciation and gratitude to Prime Minister Mudar Badran

from

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With best wishes
J.A.
Prime Minister Mudar Badran
May 28, 1983

Bassam Bakht
chairman of the company's board of directors and general manager.

FEATURES

Genetic engineering offers hope against killer diseases

By Stephen Powell

Reuter

LONDON — Genetic engineering, which once conjured up pictures of scientists tinkering with the human make-up, is emerging as an industry offering hope in the fight against killer diseases and famine.

The first products of an industry with a multi-million dollar potential are already available but experts who gathered in London this month said it could be either the beginning of a technological revolution in medicine, agriculture and industry or false dawn.

They were among almost 1,000 scientists and industrialists at the first world conference on the commercial applications of biotechnology to try to identify the potential of the industry, which uses gene-splicing techniques

developed in the 1970s.

Charles Reece, director of research and technology for the British firm Imperial Chemical Industries (ICI), told delegates: "I have no doubt there's gold in them hills. The trouble is getting of the damned plain."

Others were more sanguine, but stressed a need for long-term investment.

When Genentech became the first genetic engineering company to allow the public to buy its stock in 1980, its share price doubled within minutes of issue, but such market fever is past.

The 200-odd research companies now in the field are assigned to treading a long road to profitability.

The Swiss-based Biogen Company, a leader in the industry, has said it does not expect to make a profit for several years.

But experts say the long-term

possibilities of biotechnology are almost limitless.

They speak of new drugs and vaccines against a wide range of diseases, development of crops more resistant to disease, frost and drought, new fuels and feedstocks and the use of microbes to increase oil production.

But a paper given by an American research team from Cornell University added a note of caution, saying:

"For all its promise, biotechnology is as yet an embryonic technology... while progress is being made daily there are yet many fundamental problems to be overcome before extensive commercialisation of 'engineered' products can be realised."

The team also said the U.S. and Western Europe were benefiting from the genetic resources of poor countries, while the Third World was losing out.

"Developing countries will increasingly find themselves buying from foreign firms the... seeds which contain genetic information originating in their own countries," they added.

They also stressed the danger that new products could supplant the traditional crops of tropical countries.

But while biotechnology offers tremendous potential benefits for the Third World, especially in food production, experts say the commercialisation of genetically engineered plants remains a distant prospect, a hope for the 1990s.

Experts at the Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Centre in New York reported this month that one form of purified interferon had been effective in treating victims of the mysterious Acquired Immune Deficiency

Syndrome (AIDS).

Genetic engineering went commercial last year, when a human insulin produced by Genentech's research went on the market and Biogen's first product, a diagnostic kit for hepatitis, has just been sold in Japan.

From its beginnings in 1976, the genetic engineering business has had a special aura of glamour and a hint of danger. Many people were disturbed by scientists' ability to crack and copy the genetic codes that create different forms of life.

About three-quarters of the world's genetic engineering research companies are in the United States, but increasing competition comes from Europe.

Analysts expect some of today's small genetic engineering companies to become the major corporations of the 1990s.

Czechs honour Hasek's works

By Jonathan Lynn

Reuter

PRAGUE — Czechoslovakia has been celebrating the centenary of the birth of a drunkard, practical joker and anarchist who is also one of its top authors — Jaroslav Hasek.

Hasek's rambling comic epic "The Good Soldier Schweik" is known around the world for its portrayal of a little man who takes on the bureaucratic war machine of the ramshackle Austro-Hungarian Empire in the World War I.

With his idiotic grin, anecdotes and constant "bumble report, sir," Schweik manages to hold officers and officialdom up to ridicule by carrying out every absurd order to the letter and generally achieves the opposite of what was intended.

This kind of passive resistance, doing what one is told but secretly mocking and undermining authority, has often been held typical of the people of a small country such as Czechoslovakia, who frequently find themselves under the influence of great powers.

And many Czechs today are fond of saying: "We are all Schweiks."

But while Schweik, like his author Hasek, is a typical Bohemian, he is not a typical Czech, and he could stand for a little man anywhere coping with a huge impersonal system.

Critics have called Hasek's political scientist at the Joint Centre, which conducted the study of black politics and concentrates on that subject, said: "In the past, one would have said that winning the Democratic primary in Philadelphia was tantamount to winning the election. But we should be cautious in this case."

Milton Morris, another black political scientist at the Joint Centre, said race remained a formidable force.

According to the study, blacks now run city halls in 27 cities with populations of 50,000 or more and 224 counting towns of all sizes.

The unconventional Hasek's earthy humour and satirical attitude to war fit in well with official peace propaganda. "We are particularly stressing the anti-war, anti-bourgeois character of Hasek, and his connection with the socialist struggle of our time," a culture ministry official told journalists.

There has been an international conference on "the work of Jaroslav Hasek in the struggle for progress and peace among nations" in Bobris castle outside Prague.

Other events have included a Hasek exhibition and an exhibition on contemporary caricature by the artist's union. A square in Prague has been named after Hasek and there will be a Hasek festival of humour this June in Lipnice, east of Prague, where Hasek spent the last years of his life.

New editions of "The Good Soldier Schweik," which has been translated into more than 50 languages, have been published and there is a plethora of new works on Hasek.

Jaroslav Hasek was born in Prague, then ruled by Austria, on April 30, 1883, the son of a mathematics teacher.

He spent his youth wandering the byways of the Habsburg monarchy, leading a drunken, vagabond existence and supporting himself by begging and writing.

He joined the anarchist movement, editing its paper Komuna and falling foul of the police. He also liked hoaxes.

Among his odder journalistic work was the editorship of a journal called the World of Animals, a post he lost after penning increasingly incredible articles about nonexistent beasts.

He also carried on a political polemic with himself, writing under different pseudonyms for two opposed papers.

In 1915 he was called up into a Czech regiment of the Austrian army and sent to the Russian front, getting much valuable material for Schweik from the people and places he encountered.

He was taken prisoner by the Russians and joined the Czech legion, fighting with Russia against Austria for the independence of Czechoslovakia.

After the Bolshevik Revolution he joined the Red Army, and at the end of the war became a Soviet commissar, taking various positions in the Communist Party and giving up drink.

But in 1920 he returned to Czechoslovakia, moving eventually to Lipnice where he started writing "The Good Soldier Schweik" in 1921.

The first volume was a success, but Hasek fell ill and died on Jan. 3rd, 1923, before completing the fourth and last volume.

What Hasek would make of the celebrations, and his new status as a communist anti-war philosopher, is unsure, although his contempt for war was unmistakable.

Schweik is a gentle man who enjoys drinking, talking and smoking his pipe, although he sometimes enjoys a brawl when drunk. To him the war is a huge absurd nuisance, which keeps him away from home and his favourite mums.

Hasek used laughter to reveal the confusion, misery and mess of war, but he was also a satirist who mocked all authority and unmasked all hypocrisy, and one suspects that no government would be spared.

Philadelphia's black candidate has a tough fight ahead

By David Nagy

Reuter

WASHINGTON — The contest for mayor of Philadelphia is shaping up as another U.S. city drama where the seemingly irresistible force of the black vote meets the immovable object of white opposition.

Black Democrat Wilson Goode, who won his party's primary election on Tuesday, is likely to face a strong challenge at November's Philadelphia poll from white Republican John Egan, even though Democrats outnumber Republicans by five to one.

If Goode is to join the fast-growing ranks of 22 black U.S. mayors, he will have to overcome

the white resistance seen in most big-city mayoral contests from the late 1960s in Indiana to his own primary election victory.

And a new study of U.S. black politics suggests that Philadelphia, the fourth largest U.S. city, typifies the key strengths and obstacles black candidates have faced everywhere in their 16-year climb towards political power.

Experts at the joint centre for political studies, the Washington-based think-tank that did the study, say the contrast between Philadelphia's calm, clean primary and the race-baiting in Chicago's mayoral election in April was refreshing but probably misleading.

The Chicago contest, won by black Democrat Harold Washington, was so ugly that leaders

across the country, of all races, were hoping Philadelphia would help erase that memory and sweeten the political atmosphere.

Like Washington, Goode had the edge over his white opponent in opinion polls before the primary. In both cities the voting turnout was enormous by modern U.S. standards.

Goode won by about 53 to 46 per cent, little better than Washington's 52 to 48 per cent showing.

Both men were saved by solid black support that went about 96 per cent in their way in each case.

Goode did slightly better in attracting the extra white backing needed to win, an estimated 23 to 24 per cent compared with Washington's 19 per cent.

Three-quarters of white Phi-

adelphian Democrats preferred Goode, a highly controversial public figure, and most undecided whites voted white.

Eddie Williams, president of the Joint Centre which conducted the study of black politics and concentrates on that subject, said: "In the past, one would have said that winning the Democratic primary in Philadelphia was tantamount to winning the election. But we should be cautious in this case."

Milton Morris, another black political scientist at the Joint Centre, said race remained a formidable force.

According to the study, blacks now run city halls in 27 cities with populations of 50,000 or more and 224 counting towns of all sizes.

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HEADLINES

NEWS IN BRIEF

Mohammad visits army HQ

AMMAN (Petra) — His Highness Prince Mohammad Saturday paid a visit to the army headquarters in Amman and met the Armed Forces Commander in Chief Lt.-Gen. Sharif Zaid ibn Shaker.

Badran issues tender circular

AMMAN (J.T.) — Prime Minister Mudar Badran has requested that all government departments apply regulations equally both to local and foreign companies when inviting tenders and evaluating bids for projects. Mr. Badran's request, contained in a circular, also said that these regulations should include all other considerations including sections for fees and customs, and the employment and training of local workers employed on these projects.

Cement company raises foreign loan

AMMAN (J.T.) — A report in Al Ra'i newspaper said Saturday that the Jordan Cement Factories Company will shortly obtain a \$45 million loan from abroad to finance its projects. The final details of the loan are currently being negotiated the paper said.

King sees ski show

AOABA (J.T.) — His Majesty King Hussein Saturday attended a water skiing show staged by a group of U.S. water ski champions. The display, presented by the famous Cypress Gardens Show from Florida, included high jumps, tricks, skiing, swivel ballet, Corky the clown, adagio doubles, human pyramids, and delta wing kite.

Exploration team hopeful on Azraq oil reserves

AMMAN (J.T.) — A joint Jordanian-Iraqi team is searching for oil deposits in Al Azraq region north east of here according to a report published in Al Ra'i newspaper Saturday.

It said that to date the team has drilled five experimental wells employing Romanian and Yugoslav derricks.

A team spokesman said that the tests are aimed at determining whether the area contains deposits of oil in commercially exploitable quantities, and it is hoped that in another one and a half months from now the tests will be completed.

In 1981 the Natural Resources Authority hired foreign companies to prospect for oil in a number of regions, but unfortunately will no positive results, the spokesman said.

We have been encouraged to continue drilling because the latest well drilled last month produced asphalt which did not appear in the earlier wells, the spokesman added.

Fairouz to star at Jerash

AMMAN (J.T.) — Several local and foreign folk troupes will participate in the Jerash Festival which is due to be held in August, according to Ministry of Information Under-Secretary Peter Lah.

He said that the well-known Lebanese Fairouz group will pre-

sent two variety shows that will include songs and folk dances.

Also Saturday the Jerash Festival executive committee held a meeting, under the chairmanship of Yarmouk University President Adnan Badran to discuss the final reports drawn up by the festival's sub-committees.

Israeli jets come under fire

(Continued from page 1)

east of the capital.

Heavy shelling breaks out

onnaissance missions were necessary for their "security" and made clear they would not tolerate interference with them. The Syrians said at the time they were only acting in self-defence.

Residents of the Bekaa Valley said reinforcements were still pouring in for both sides. The rightist Falangist radio station "Voice of Lebanon" reported that a Syrian armoured battalion crossed the border from Homs during the day and deployed around the Lebanese town of Baabek.

The Damascus announcement about the manoeuvres said they had been successful and proved that the Syrian armed forces had "high ability to block any aggression."

The official statement issued by the Syrian news agency was the first public word that exercises were taking place at all. It did not say where they were held but informed sources in Damascus believed they were staged south and west of the capital.

Measures would be taken "with a view to the territory of the U.S. itself."

The Western analysts said that although such language evoked the Cuban missile crisis of 1962, Moscow more probably intended deployment of triple-warhead SS-20s in eastern Siberia where their estimated 3,000-kilometre range would allow them to reach the U.S. west coast.

Western disarmament experts here said this would probably mean that relatively short-range missiles such as the SS-12 and SS-22 could be deployed in East Germany or Czechoslovakia.

The statement also said mea-



Health Minister Zuhair Malhas Saturday chairs a meeting of the anti-cholera and anti-diarrhoea higher executive committee (Petra photo)

Iraqi-Jordanian meetings explore increase in cultural, sporting links

AMMAN (Petra) — Prime Minister Mudar Badran conferred here Saturday with visiting Iraqi Minister of Youth Ahmad Al Samara'i. They reviewed ways of further bolstering cooperation between Iraq and Jordan in sports and youth affairs.

The meeting, at the prime minister's office, was also attended by Minister of Culture and Youth

Meanwhile teams from both ministries, led by Ma'an Abu Nowar and Ahmad Al Samara'i, covered future national sporting fixtures, visits by Iraqi coaches to train Jordanian athletes and contact securing.

The teams also discussed the coordinating of both countries' activities at the coming Los Angeles Olympiad, preparation for a week of Iraqi sporting events to be held in Jordan in the coming year and a number of other related topics.

Later Mr. Samara'i was received by Minister of Information Adnan Abu Odeh with whom he discussed information cooperation between Iraq and Jordan. Participating in the meeting were Mr. Abu Nowar and Iraqi ambassador to Jordan Ibrahim Sultan.



Minister of Culture and Youth Ma'an Abu Nowar (third from left) Saturday led the Jordanian delegation in talks with its Iraqi counterpart from the Ministry of Youth under the leadership of Ahmad Al Samara'i (Petra photo)

Arens: No war of attrition

(Continued from page 1)

they're only waging a war of nerves, but we're ready for any eventuality," Mr. Arens said.

"But we're strong enough to ensure that Syria will not be able to dictate the scope, direction or form of any violence they start. If that happens we'll determine how the fighting is going to develop," Mr. Arens said, and added: "We hope they won't start anything."

He said Israel was alert to the possibility that the Syrian manoeuvres on Golan could develop into a sudden offensive.

In Damascus the official Syrian News Agency SANA reported that Syria had ended a series of manoeuvres. It did not say where they were held but informed sources in Damascus said they were believed to have been staged south and east of the Syrian capital.

Most of the areas covered by the shelling are under Israeli military control.

But the Israelis generally use only the main roads through mountain villages to transport equipment and supplies to their front-line opposite Syrian forces, enabling the militiamen to come and go freely off the beaten track.

The Falangist radio said the shells which hit east Beirut came from behind Syrian lines, where leftist militiamen operate.

"If we have to fight, we shall fight, relying first of all on ourselves and our capabilities."

Mr. Kasm repeated Syria's rejection of an Israeli troop withdrawal accord signed by the Beirut government 11 days ago. He said it was more dangerous than the 1978 Camp David accords, which led to an Egyptian-Israeli treaty, because "Lebanon is the place where the Arab cause could be murdered."

One newspaper, the mass-circulation *Gunaydin*, included an unsourced report that the operation was mounted three days ago after Iraq said it could not guarantee security in its northern border area.

Although the Foreign Ministry said there were no casualties, official sources said on Thursday that special medical teams had been drafted into the area.

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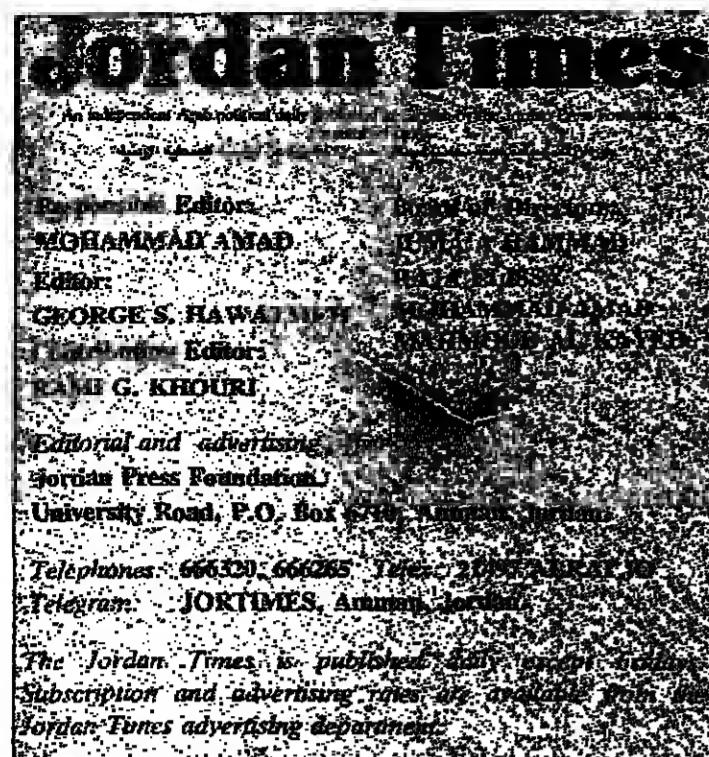
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Confrontation unlikely, but...

IT SEEMS that neither Syria nor Israel wants a military confrontation with the other over the situation in Lebanon at this stage.

For its part, Syria could not be sure what an all-out confrontation with the Israelis might lead to, and a limited confrontation is not likely since Israel is opposed to it in form and substance. The Syrians are also content with their veto over the Lebanese-Israeli withdrawal agreement, as long as this veto can prevent Israel from achieving gains in Lebanon. Damascus must also feel that its political position is strong enough without having to confront the Israelis militarily.

Israel, on the other hand, could not easily justify an attack on the Syrian army, at home or abroad; and could not afford inescapable heavy casualties if it were to launch such an attack; and what could it possibly achieve from such a risky adventure, anyway?

The fact that an Israeli-Syrian confrontation is logically not likely does not mean that there will not be war between the two countries, especially when no political solution to the Lebanese question is in sight, for the foreseeable future at least.

Still, our be, is that the Syrians are much more comfortable than the Israelis with the situation in Lebanon as it exists today, and therefore we would expect Syria to try and achieve the maximum from its present posture.

But, since Israel is highly unlikely to accept Syrian conditions on the agreement with Lebanon, the focus of Syria's political demands can be expected to shift back to the Golan, if not to the whole question of the Middle East as such, as one way of breaking the current deadlock or extracting a certain price.

What is happening now though is that both the United States and Israel would not want to link Lebanon with the wider question of the Arab-Israeli conflict, and Washington would rather leave it for Saudi Arabia and Lebanon to convince Syria of not taking things that far — as the U.S. is exactly doing these days.

If, however, Arab mediation efforts will not work with Syria — and judging by how these efforts are proceeding now, they will not — the U.S. may have to step in and take upon itself the major responsibility for moving things the way Secretary of State Shultz did in concluding the Lebanese-Israeli accord earlier this month.

This scenario might not be as simple or likely as it sounds. But, again, who could deny that the problem of Lebanon today is a true microcosm of that of the Middle East as a whole?

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i: Israel lays false trail

THE Israeli information media are intent on spreading reports about the massing of Syrian and Israeli troops in the Lebanon Bekaa Valley, and they keep repeating the fear that a 'spark' might ignite the whole situation in the Middle East region. At the same time Israel has dispatched its foreign minister on a tour of Europe with the aim of emphasising that Israel is not preparing for war, and has no intention of provoking Syria. Thus Israel has been able to create a new problem for the world: that of Israeli-Syrian confrontation, which is designed to take priority over the central Palestinian issue and that of troop withdrawals from Lebanon.

Israel wants such minor issues to overshadow the most important question — that of Palestine — so that the world will forget about the Palestinians, their rights and their homeland. Easing the tension along the Syrian-Israeli ceasefire lines is Israel's top priority now, and it is an issue which Israel tries hard to call the world's attention to. No doubt this is a well-planned strategy designed to strip the Palestinian problem of its serious and urgent character in a bid to gain more time so that the Zionists can carry out in full their Judaisation of Arab land.

Al Dustour: Central issue ignored

FRIDAY'S statement by U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz about the possibility of partition in Lebanon as an alternative to the withdrawal of foreign forces represents a regression in Washington's commitment to preserve the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Lebanon. More over it manifests Washington's willingness to accept the partitioning of Lebanon if such a development is deemed necessary. The U.S. views the troop withdrawal as the prime issue, yet this can be solved by implementing the Lebanese-Israeli agreement which provides for the withdrawal of Israeli forces and by a call from the Arab League and Lebanon for a pull out of Syrian forces. But the question which has not yet been answered is what would happen to the Palestinians? The Palestinians also have a homeland so why cannot they be permitted to return to their homeland? Why does not America admit this fact and try to solve their problem which is the crux of the whole Middle East issue. Washington should realise that tackling the side issues will never settle the Middle East question.

The Camp David agreements and the Israeli-Lebanese agreement on the withdrawal of foreign forces succeeded only in further complicating the central issue — that of Palestine and the Palestinians. The U.S. is not solving the problems in the region, indeed not even in Lebanon: nor are the Arabs doing anything to help in this matter.

Sawt Al Shaab: Disunity favours enemy

FOLLOWING Israel's invasion of Lebanon and the sufferings of the Palestinian people, the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) decided to unite all its constituents in a first step towards pursuing the struggle. At the Palestine National Council meeting in Algeria all the groups decided to unite under the leadership of Yasser Arafat, in the knowledge that any divisions would ruin all PLO gains to date on the regional and the international levels. At present, however, we witness deep divisions among Al Fatah movement, the largest PLO group which includes 90 per cent of the PLO fighters. The internal dissent is being created among the Palestinian fighters to serve the interests of extremist regimes in the region. Mr. Arafat himself announced that certain parties, which are trying to create divisions among his men, were those same ones that abandoned the Palestinian people during the Israeli invasion of Lebanon and did not even lift a hand to help the PLO fighters.

VIEW FROM AMERICA

By Franz Schurmann

Unjust war awakened Afghans

Older French remember their "dirty wars" in Indochina and Algeria. Egyptians remember their war in North Yemen. Even young Americans still remember or know of our dirty war in Vietnam. And the Soviet people now know about their own "Vietnam" in Afghanistan as the coffins of their soldiers come back home.

Twenty eight years ago I spent a year wandering around Afghanistan. I was then a young student much more interested in adventure than in wisdom. My companion was a Japanese ethnologist who had gotten a small amount of money from his government (then still quite poor) to look for a lost tribe of Mongols. We first went to Karachi, then to Lahore, and finally arrived in Kabul, the Afghan capital. Already when we passed along a Japanese commercial chain. In Kabul there were around four Japanese interested in buying Afghan cotton for Japanese textile factories. Being with a Japanese was an advantage for me, because the Afghans hated

the British, detested the Russians, and distrusted the Americans (though they liked Americans). But during World War II their sympathies were towards Britain's enemies, namely Germany and Japan.

I remember this adventure from long ago now because Soviet newspapers have finally been willing to admit what their soldiers and citizens have long known, that their armed forces are bogged down in a war they cannot win. The more they kill and destroy, the greater the resistance. And the more they try to prop up their Marxist puppet government in Kabul, the more that regime loses even the tiny bit of support it may earlier have received from some of the more educated in the urban population. Soviet planes have destroyed so many villages, dropped so many anti-personnel bombs that have killed and maimed so many children, yet more men rise to join the resistance. The country was always short of food, and ten years ago suffered a terrible famine.

Again famine sweeps the country, though few in the outside world hear of it. As many as three million people have gone into exile in Pakistan and Iran. There are thousands of internal refugees, people who have fled back into the mountains from war and Soviet oppression. Yet all of this is abstract for me since the country was so different twenty eight years ago.

I was told all along the way from Japan, where I was living, to the Khyber Pass that the Afghans were the most ferocious, most bloodthirsty people in the world. When I had settled down in Kabul for a few weeks, I heard similar stories from young Afghans who came to our house, and who helped me learn Farsi, which is the common language in Kabul and in most of Afghanistan. These were young university students, desperately anxious to go abroad to study. They laughed at their own country, made jokes about it. They also tried hard to look different. All were clean-shaven, wore

very clean Western-style clothes. A few spoke English remarkably well though they had never even been in Pakistan where English is widely spoken.

But as we went into the interior, we left these young men behind, and found other men, young and old. They were very different from the educated Kabul. They all had beards.

They all prayed five times a day. They all were strongly attached to family or tribe or to their local region. They were extremely friendly. Sometimes I thought that they only acted so towards foreigners. Yet I remember when, one night, the guesthouse where we slept was opened to two ex-soldiers who, when released from the army, walked home, a distance of some 800 miles (1200 kilometres). Muslim hospitality was offered them as generously as to us.

I saw no violence, heard no shooting, witnessed no cruelty. Daytimes we rode for miles over hot hills. But I remember

the coolness and sweetness of the nights. Back in the settlements, we all sat around telling stories. Many times they had said, become a Muslim, and we will give you 'zem'in o zan' (land and women). It was so very peaceful, I thought — too peaceful for a Westerner like me who wanted more excitement.

But back in Kabul before leaving the country, the young men said to me: One day we shall have revolution here. I never heard from them again, but young men like them formed the ultra-left Khalq and Parcham parties in the 1960's. And then in the mid-1970's, these same young men began to impose revolution on the country but also kill each other in bitter political strife. And then the hated "Shurawis" (Soviets) came in to "help."

These Shurawis thought that the Afghans were just like the Central Asian "Basmachi" they fought in the 1920's, and finally wiped out. Like we Americans in Vietnam, these Sovi-

Glenn's political spaceship gains momentum

The actor succeeded, why not the astronaut

By David Nagy
Reuter

WASHINGTON — American space hero John Glenn's bid for the U.S. presidency seems to be taking off before Glenn himself is quite ready for the ride.

Well ahead of his own timetable, new opinion polls show the Ohio Senator poised to overtake former Vice President Walter Mondale as top choice for the Democratic Party's 1984 presidential nomination.

A fresh Gallup poll shows that Mondale, number two under former President Jimmy Carter, leads Glenn by only 29 to 23 per cent — a big difference from the two-to-one lead Mondale held in previous surveys.

The news had invigorated the Democratic race and strongly sug-

gests that Glenn's personal prestige will provide a solid challenge to the affluent, well-organized Mondale campaign.

A recent poll by the Pennsylvania Organisation gave the first signs that Glenn was catching up. Then a Los Angeles Times survey indicated he had taken a slight lead, though political analysts were sceptical because of the poll's small statistical base.

Glenn's leap in the Gallup Survey seemed to catch his own strategists by surprise.

"The polls are moving faster than we'd like," said Glenn campaign aide Michael Colopy.

"We'd prefer the front-runner (Mondale) to remain the front-runner until we can move into a commanding lead, which would be to the end of the year."

Besides Mondale and Glenn,

the other Democrats now in the White House field are Senators Gary Hart of Colorado, Alan Cranston of California, Ernest Hollings of South Carolina, and former Florida Governor Reubin Askew.

Glenn's strategy from the outset has been to play a waiting game: Making contacts, raising money and establishing an image as a mature, middle-of-the-road candidate who might give Democrats their best chance to beat Republican President Ronald Reagan in the November 1984, general election.

Reagan has not said whether he will run again, but the Democrats are basing their plans on the assumption he will.

The Glenn plan was to let Mondale bear the early pressures as "front runner", which jinxed such past contenders as Republican

George Romney in 1968, Democrat Edmund Muskie in 1972 and Edward Kennedy in 1980.

The curious thing about former astronaut Glenn's sudden rise is that nothing in particular seemed to prompt it.

Mondale has coped smoothly so far as front-runner and seems to have none of the flaws of temperament, inexperience of controversial background that hurt Romney, Muskie and Kennedy.

Glenn has done nothing spectacular. He finished fourth in a recent "straw poll" of party activists in Massachusetts, though he plans to skip a similar contest in Wisconsin in June, viewing it as biased towards liberal rivals Cranston and Hart.

"Glenn's advisers attribute his growing strength to the work he has done since he formally entered the race on April 21."

The senator is rated a somewhat dull campaigner in political circles, but Colopy said that Democratic voters were finally maturing Glenn the space hero and businessman with Glenn the senator and presidential candidate.

The Mondale camp, however, said it was bound to happen when a man as famous as Glenn, the first U.S. astronaut to go into earth orbit, joined a long, tedious contest where excitement and novelty were in short supply.

Black civil rights leader Jesse Jackson finished third in two recent polls even though he is not a declared candidate. No black was listed in the Gallup Survey.

As it stands, John Glenn, the man who came from space to vie for the presidency of the United States, marginally trails Mondale in the Democratic selection stakes.

But as Colopy observed: "The American public loves an underdog."

British election likely to sharpen north-south division

By James Anderson
Reuter

SHEFFIELD, England — The "People's Republic of South Yorkshire" knows how it will vote in the general election on June 9 — for Labour.

The main opposition party so dominates local affairs in the northern England and Scotland — which in 1969 elected 152 Labour members and made up more than half of Labour's parliamentary strength — could be left as a political backwater, shackled to its industrial past.

But the reasons for this intense loyalty — deep-set traditions and the unemployment caused by the decline of heavy industries like steel and coal — are no comfort for Michael Foot's Labour Party.

It recognises the need to appeal also to the uncommitted among the middle classes.

If the 20-year trend of regional voting is carried further, as opinion polls now indicate, next month's general election could leave Britain more sharply divided politically into north and south than at any time this century.

Some commentators say that Labour will not only lose the election but, confined to its old industrial bases, may never rule Britain again.

Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher's Conservatives are widely expected to sweep back to power with another triumph in southern and central England — the land of farms, market towns, light-to-medium industry and cosy suburbs where free enterprise and Common Market membership have their strongest appeal.

The economic hopes which the Conservatives hold out for the country's future focus mainly on new industries like electronics, which factories are smaller and trade unions weaker or totally

absent.

If the economy does revive under another Conservative administration, it is more likely to increase the prosperity of those who are weathering the recession in relative comfort than to ease the troubles of those who have been hardest hit.

The new jobs which recovery might bring are not likely to be in the industrial towns like Sheffield, where the steel industry workforce has shrunk in a decade from 54,000 to under 19,000 and local officials say nine-tenths of the youngsters about to finish school face no future but unemployment.

Concern about the divisive effects of Thatcher's policies is the hallmark of her party's out-of-favour moderate faction, the heirs of 19th-century Prime Minister Benjamin Disraeli.

Disraeli, as a young novelist, vividly attacked the bitter class divisions of his time. He laid the foundations of the Conservative Party's 20th-century successes with the slogan "one nation" and policies to meet working-class grievances.

A leading moderate, Northern Ireland Secretary James Prior, has little influence on Thatcher and may be dropped from her cabinet if she is reelected with a large majority.

The trends all seem to be moving Thatcher's way across a broad range of social and economic patterns.

In the inner-city constituencies of Sheffield, only a quarter of families own their own homes. Up to two-thirds rent from the local

government, many of them living in large estates built on the ruins left by German bombers after World War II.

There are few stronger guides than housing to how Britons vote — the main reason that central London, with large council estates and solid Labour majorities, is the foregone conclusion and the decline of Labour's urban base.

The Conservative Party's long-term fostering of home ownership has paid great political dividends. Home owners now number more than half Britain's families.

In 1969 that trend helped the Tories win vital ground even among union members in industrial areas of the midlands and the south.

In the new electoral map on which the election will be fought the distribution of parliamentary seats reflected the growth of leafy suburbs where Conservative victories are a foregone conclusion and the decline of Labour's urban base.

Academic experts who studied the new map found that Labour, facing an uphill battle in any case, needed to capture 15 seats just to retain its relative strength in parliament.

Following the election, the new map will be used to draw the boundaries of the 650 constituencies.

It has not been confirmed that one of the internees gave the interview in question.

Suspicions were being fanned. Levy wrote, by the secrecy surrounding the internees, and the possibility that they may be intimidated by the Soviet embassy in Bern.

The government and the Red Cross have never identified them, and they are inaccessible to all but a few Soviet and Swiss diplomats.

Levy said one of the prisoners,

Five other soldiers followed, flying from Pakistan to join their compatriots in a military detention centre amid rolling meadows on the picturesque Zugberg, 24 kilometres south of Zurich.

Officially, they are to stay for up to two years or until the end of the three-and-a-half-year-old Afghan conflict, whichever comes first. They have agreed to return home then.

But an ICRC spokesman said: "The ICRC never repatriates a prisoner if his health or his life would thereby be endangered."

"The ICRC will never repatriate someone against his will," he added.

He was involved in negotiations leading to the interment agreement, brought the fears into the open in a widely-quoted newspaper article late last year.

He suggested that the Red Cross had promised the Soviet Union that its soldiers would be returned in exchange for the right to visit Kabul's main prison.

The Red Cross was allowed into Afghanistan last August, but was expelled again in October.

Officials confirm in private that there was a direct trade-off between the ICRC and the Soviet Union involving prison visits and interment of Soviet soldiers in Switzerland.

Levy said one of the prisoners,

whom he named as Yuri Povarnitsin, would be condemned to death on returning to the Soviet Union for strongly criticising the Soviet government in a U.S. television interview in Pakistan last year.

It has not been confirmed that

International seminar on human waste management meets

Lack of sanitation causes death of 15 million children annually

By Kamon Penstruwan

BANGKOK — Even in Biblical times people were advised to carry a paddle to dig and "turn back and cover that which cometh from thee" (Deuteronomy 23:13). But this basic environmental duty is still not properly observed in many parts of the world — a negligence that means dangerous health hazards.

The threat comes mainly from human waste that is infected with diseases, such as cholera and typhoid fever. The diseases are transmitted either by flies and other insects or a contaminated water supply.

A complicating factor is that almost all people who lack proper waste disposal facilities also do not have access to safe drinking water — an environmental situation that is typical of most rural areas in developing countries.

Management of excreta is not a topic that generates much public interest. People who use the "flush and forget" system tend to take it for granted, but to social scientists, engineers, and community planners appropriate toilet technology is complex and serious.

For the first time, 95 such concerned experts from about 20 countries and international organisations met at a seminar in Bangkok, Thailand.

The seminar on human waste management for Low Income Settlement was organised by the

Asian Institute of Technology, the National Housing Authority of Thailand and the Institute of Housing Studies of the Netherlands.

In the low-income housing areas of towns and cities, as well as in many rural settlements, the high population densities and rapidly changing socioeconomic conditions means there is an urgent need for effective human waste management, seminar experts reported. However, many Third World countries have failed to address the problem and an increasingly polluted environment has given rise to a multitude of serious gastrointestinal diseases.

According to the World Health Organisation (WHO) and the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), some 15 million children below the age of five die in developing countries every year partly due to the absence of sanitation. Diarrhoea alone kills 6 million children every year and contributes to the death of another 18 million. Parasitic worms infect nearly one-half of the entire population of developing countries.

There are also critical economic consequences to the absence of adequate human waste disposal. In India, for instance, water-borne diseases claim 33 million lives every year.

The usual method for human waste disposal in Western countries is the sewerage system, where excreta are flushed into sewers and carried to a treatment

plant where the wastewater is purified. The sewerage system has been partially adopted in developing countries, but because of high costs often without the treatment plant.

According to Dr. Krisao Nimpuno, chairman of the seminar's organising committee, conventional sanitation (the "flush and forget" type) is not economically feasible for poor communities. He favours a low-cost approach.

And certainly the best known is the pit latrine, basically a hole in the ground. But the pit has disadvantages, such as odours that attract flies and rodents, and the possibility it may pollute groundwater.

Researchers have designed the so-called VIP latrine, ("ventilated improved pit") that does not give off odours and is both clean and safe.

Many African countries have satisfactorily adopted this low-cost design. In Zimbabwe, a prefabricated long-lasting VIP latrine costs about \$100. A unit using locally available materials costs only about \$5.

A double-pit privy can also be built. When one pit is full, it is closed and the waste decomposes into harmless material while the other pit is in use.

For those whose toilet habits include water for cleansing, a water-seal, hand-flush toilet built over an aqua-privy, is the answer. Since only 1 to 2 litres are needed

after each use, the amount of water used is not extreme.

These simple, low-cost systems should be the first provided to poor areas, said Dr. Chongrak Polprasert of the Asian Institute of Technology's Environmental Engineering Division. Gradually, when living standards improve, the sanitation facilities can be upgraded.

Participants also looked into socio-cultural factors that contribute to changes in a community's toilet customs. In one Central American country, for instance, despite health education programmes, women did not use public latrines. Subsequent studies revealed that the women felt going to the latrine was a private function and since the walls of the toilet did not cover their feet, they refused to use it.

Disposing of human waste is not the only concern of sanitation experts. There is also a question of trying to put it to productive use.

In the People's Republic of China, for example, nothing is "wasted". Human and animal excreta, along with agricultural residues, are extensively collected and used as fertiliser after being composted.

During the last decade, biogas technology has been widely implemented in many provinces of China. The number of biogas digesters is now estimated at 7 to 9 million, each producing enough biogas for the cooking and lighting needs of a Chinese family.



Pakistani children play at their village's new water tap: Hope for a better future devoid of filth and disease. (UNICEF photo)

Benefits are numerous and obvious: housewives spend less time in the kitchen, which is cleaner than when firewood is used. Family members no longer have to spend a long time searching for fuelwood, or spend a large part of their income to buy fuel. Biogas is also used to run machines or generate electricity, further increasing productivity and living standards.

Sanitation is a collective concern that requires the active understanding and cooperation of all community members. But since it is a taboo subject, it is difficult to achieve this cooperation. Cultural and organisational constraints are more important than the technology. The technical options are there, but application requires much determination and effort.

— IDRC Features

S.African black community hit hardest by drought

By Richard Lander
Reuter

BOCHUM, South Africa — The worst drought of the century has brought disease and starvation to thousands of blacks in South Africa's impoverished rural homelands.

Many parts of the homelands, designated by the government as the focus for black political development, are utterly desolate.

The maize crop, which provides the main form of subsistence for most rural blacks, has failed miserably. Cattle have died for lack of fodder and water is at a premium as rivers and boreholes run dry.

At Bochum, 120 kilometres south of the Botswana border in the Lebowa homeland, the effects of the drought are evident. The sandy earth, never the most fertile of lands, is almost devoid of grass as the town suffers its second dry year in a row.

Many peasants did not bother to sow crops this year, and those who did saw them become almost total failures.

At villages outside the town, people dig new springs to replace those that have become dry holes. At a spring which still produced a trickle of water, a man proudly showed his full bucket, which he said had taken more than two hours to fill.

Approaching the town's hospital, children play along a bony river bed. Inside, others are recovering from malnutrition,

which has been the main killer among the young.

On a ward floor, 12 tiny black children pick lethargically at a bowl of minced meat and vegetables, many still showing signs of the disease which almost killed them: Puffy swollen faces, poorly developed limbs and patchy coloured skin. Their hair has started to grow, but is still ratty and sparse.

All are smaller than they should be for their age. The three-year-olds in the ward look barely more than 12 months.

The hospital's matron, Rebecca Mafa, said many children had already been on the verge of death and had to be fed intravenously before they could be moved on to a solid diet. About 10 bad died from malnutrition in Bochum this year, she said, and diseases like tuberculosis, pellagra and measles were also prevalent.

Nurses at other Lebowa hospitals said some parents brought their children too late for help, often because they could not afford the two rand \$1.80 fee. Sometimes, they had inadvertently poisoned their babies by giving them traditional African starvations.

The Black Sash Organisation, which tries to help blacks affected by the country's strict influx laws, has estimated that three million people were moved between 1960 and 1980.

Government policy aims to develop the homelands as self-governing states while denying political rights to blacks in other areas.

Health Minister Nak Van Der

Merwe has said his department is in control of the drought after extra government aid to cope with its effects.

But the minister sparked off controversy when he said large families had also to shoulder the blame for malnutrition. "On the one hand there is too little food and on the other there are too many people. People cannot simply continue to multiply uncontrollably," he said.

With a frosty winter coming fast to South Africa, aid organisations warn the situation may get even worse.

In a Periman, who runs the Institute of Race Relations' "Operation Hunger" feeding programme said: "This winter will not only be one of hunger and malnutrition among the very old and the young, but also one of family starvation."

Others have warned that hunger and frustration could explode into violence and unrest.

Bishop Desmond Tutu, general secretary of the South African Council of Churches, said people could be driven to kill for food, while the chief minister of KwaZulu, Chief Gatshe Buthelezi, warned the drought could determine the future of South Africa.

"When people see their children dying from lack of water and nutrition, it could trigger off something neither black nor white politicians will be able to control," he said.

But Nimeiri's main problems lie in Sudan's poverty. It has foreign

Nimeiri celebrates 14th anniversary amid economic, political problems

By Fuad Gawhari

Reuter

KHARTOUM — Sudan's soldier-President, Jaffar Muhammad Nimeiri, faces serious political and economic problems as the country prepares to celebrate the 14th anniversary of his rule.

Nimeiri, who has survived several old and right-wing extremist coup attempts, took power in Africa's largest country — and one of the world's poorest, in 1969, in a bloodless coup in 1969 and won a third term this month with a massive popular vote.

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But Nimeiri's main problems lie in Sudan's poverty. It has foreign

troops 1,300 kilometres to the south of the southern trouble zone in Bor.

According to Sudanese political experts, Nimeiri believes that dividing the south would make it easier for regional governors to run their affairs and enable them to deal with the area's political, economic and social problems.

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But Nimeiri's main problems lie in Sudan's poverty. It has foreign

debts of \$7.5 billion and chronic trade deficits. It relies heavily on the International Monetary Fund (IMF), the Arab Monetary Fund, Saudi Arabia and other aid donors.

Last year saw a major government shake-up following several riot deaths after subsidies were removed from essential commodities and a successful request to the IMF for a \$210 million loan.

Nimeiri's rule has veered from early pro-Moscow socialism to a pro-Western mixture of state and private enterprise.

Hampered by poor communications and infrastructure, the central authorities in Khartoum have at times maintained only a tenuous hold over the ethnically diverse population.

Meeting the challenge at home, Nimeiri's decision to divide the south is a bid to tighten his grip on the region and is seen as the last of a series of measures to stem troubles there, which since 1972 have included a southern vice-president and a southern parliament.

Since these have failed to bring stability to the region, Nimeiri now proposes three areas, each with a capital — Makkal in the Upper Nile province; Wau in Bahr Al Ghazal and Juba in Eastern Equatoria.

Some southern leaders are suspicious of the division, believing that it might be a Khartoum attempt to weaken their region.

TV & RADIO

JORDAN TELEVISION

BBC WORLD SERVICE

MAIN CHANNEL

639, 720, 1413 KHz

16:30 ... Kora ...
16:50 ... Cartoons ...
17:10 ... Black Horse ...
17:50 ... Old Couple ...
18:15 ... That's Incredible ...
18:30 ... Programmes ...
20:00 ... News in Arabic ...
20:30 ... Local Programme ...
21:30 ... Cinema '83 ...
22:15 ... Arabic Series ...
23:10 ... News in Arabic ...

18:00 ... French Programme ...
19:30 ... News in French ...
20:00 ... News in Arabic ...
20:30 ... Brav ...
21:10 ... Nanny ...
22:00 ... News in English ...
22:15 ... Best Seller ...

06:00 Newsdesk 06:30 Orlando Gilkes ...
06:45 Financial Review ... 06:45 Refreshments ... 07:00 World News 07:00 British press Review 07:15 Letterbox 07:30 Parade 07:45 Letter from America 08:00 Newsdesk 08:30 Counterpart 09:00 World News 09:00 News about Britain 09:30 From Our Correspondent 09:30 Sarah and Company 09:45 World News 10:00 Reflections 10:15 The Pleasure's Yours 10:15 World News 11:00 British Press Review 11:15 Letterbox 11:30 Refreshments 11:45 Letterbox 12:00 World News 12:15 Religious Service 13:00 World News 13:00 News About Britain 13:15 Letter from America 13:30 Baker's Half Dozen 15:00 World News 15:00 Community 15:00 Good Books 15:30 Short Story 16:00 The Tony Myatt Request Show 16:15 In Trust For The Nation 17:00 Radio 2000 Special 17:15 World News 17:30 Religious Service 17:30 World News 18:00 News in Arabic 18:00 Community 18:15 From Our Correspondent 18:35 Financial Review 18:45 Letter from America 19:00 World News 19:00 Meridian 19:40 Reflections 19:45 Portcall 20:00 World News 20:00 News about Britain 20:15 Radio 2000 Special 20:30 Community 22:15 Letterbox 22:30 Half Hour ... Love and ...
Leisure ... 23:15 Short Story ... 23:30 Love and ...
Leisure ... 23:45 Short Story ... 23:55 Short Story ... 24:00 World News 00:00 News in Action 00:40 Reflections 00:45 Sportcall 01:00 World News 01:00 Commentary 01:15 Letter from America 01:30 Alternative Proms ...

01:45 ... VOICE OF AMERICA ...

12:00 ... News Summary ...

SPORTS

Roberts sets record in 500cc practice race

SLAZBURG, Austria (R) — Kenny Roberts served a warning to his fellow American rival "fast" Freddie Spencer by setting a lap record during Saturday's final 500 cc practice for Sunday's Austrian Motorcycle Grand Prix.

Roberts, 31-year-old triple world champion, clipped almost a second off Italian Marco Lucchinelli's lap record with a time of one minute 17.89 seconds around the fast 4.2 km Salzburg ring course.

Spencer, 22, who took last Sun-

day's Spanish Grand Prix when he beat Roberts in a thrilling split-second victory, recorded the day's second fastest 500 cc time of 1:18.93.

The Austrian Grand Prix marks the halfway point of the 12-race world championship with Spencer, riding a Honda, leading Roberts and his Yamaha by 68 points to 47.

Americans also snatched third and fourth starting positions with Eddie Lawson on a Yamaha and Randy Mamola aboard a Suzuki.

Mohammad presents awards to winners

AMMAN (J.T.) — His Royal Highness Prince Mohammad Friday afternoon watched the finals in a clay pigeon shooting competition held at the Royal Shooting Club, Jweideh, south of Amman.

Mohammad Issa Shahin came first by hitting 135 clay pigeons, the second was Nader Shalhoub who hit 132 pigeons. Altogether 21 participants took part in the final competition and Prince Mohammad distributed awards and cups to the winners.

Al Wahdat beats Al Faisali

AMMAN (J.T.) — Al Wahdat club Friday won the Sports Information Shield by beating Al Faisali club, 1-0 at the Sports City. Nearly 25,000 spectators were present including Minister of Justice Abdul Karim Al Tarawneh, Minister of Culture and Youth Ma'an Abu Nowar, Iraqi Minister of Youth Ahmad Al Samarr'i and Iraqi Ambassador to Jordan Ibrahim Shuja' Sultan.

Walid Khas of Al Wahdat scored the winning-goal in the second half of the game. At the end of the match, the Iraqi minister presented the shield to Al Wahdat captain Majed Basjouni.

Horvath outclasses Navratilova in French Open tennis match

PARIS (R) — Defending champion and top seed Martina Navratilova crashed out of the women's singles at the French Open tennis Saturday in the biggest upset so far of the championships.

Navratilova, looking uncharacteristically nervous, went down 6-3, 6-3 to teenage American compatriot Kathy Horvath.

Horvath, a 17-year-old from Florida, dominated the fourth-round match with brilliant volleys and well-placed lobs, taking full advantage of Navratilova's often erratic timing.

Only in the second set did Navratilova look her old self, when she suddenly put her shots together and raced to 6-0.

In the first set Navratilova, top ranked in the latest women's listings, started well enough, and held a 4-2 lead. But she ran into problems with her serve and seemed unable to cope with the swirling winds on the Roland Garros centre court.

As a capacity 16,500 crowd cheered her on Horvath started to dictate the game and pulled back to 4-4 by breaking Navratilova's serve.

The U.S. teenager, unseeded for the tournament, then held her own serve and made sure of the set by breaking Navratilova without losing a point.

Horvath now faces 1977 women's champion Mima Jausovec of Yugoslavia in the quarterfinals. Jausovec earlier Saturday registered a straightforward 6-3, 6-3 win over French teenager C. Tavvier to reach the last eight.

Afterwards a jubilant Horvath told reporters: "I think that now I have beaten Martina anything is possible. I feel great. Martina is number one and she has only lost a few matches. I am happy to be one of the few players to beat her."

"I was really confident. As soon as I started to play I knew it was a possibility. I decided to attack Martina's backhand and go to the net. I knew that she is a serve and volley player."

"She doesn't like to see you at the net first," Horvath added.

Horvath said she had problems with her concentration in the second set, but regained it for the decisive third.

Navratilova was philosophical at her post-match news conference. "It is not a disaster. Of course I am not happy about it, but I knew I had to lose sooner or later."

"I just feel the pressure is off and I am already thinking of coming back and practising on grass for Eastbourne and Wimbledon," she added.

"Horvath played smart, but I allowed her to play by not driving

my backhand. Against the wind my slice wasn't carrying enough and my shots were landing on the service line," she said.

"I don't feel any pressure playing against Chris Evert Lloyd, but the pressure is on when I play somebody like Horvath because I know that a defeat would make the headlines," Navratilova said.

"I felt that I had never been better prepared than as for this year. But I wasn't going for the shots, the game became close. I played too conservatively and that's not my game."

McEnroe fined for kicking at cameraman and abusing umpire

John McEnroe has been fined a total of \$3,000 for kicking at a cameraman and shouting obscenities at the umpire during his first round match in the French Open tennis championships.

A statement Saturday said McEnroe had been fined \$1,500 for kicking at the cameraman and a further \$1,500 for abusing umpire Philippe Boivin during his match with unseeded American Ben Testerman last Wednesday.

McEnroe had already been fined \$350 for ball abuse during the same match, after he slammed balls against the court backdrop.

The fines levied by the Men's International Professional Tennis Council (MIPTC), the ruling

body, brings his total fines for the past 12 months to \$5,750.

A player is automatically suspended when the amount reaches \$7,500, although a Grand Prix spokesman said McEnroe had the right to appeal against the fines.

American Mc Purcell was fined \$1,500 for verbal abuse in his match Friday night with John Alexander of Australia, while Jimmy Arias of the U.S. was fined \$350 for ball abuse, as was Wally Masur of Australia.

Romanian Ilie Nastase, who entered the championships on a wild card, picked up a \$500 fine for verbal abuse during his match with Sweden's Thomas Hogstedt.

The latest two fines on McEnroe, seeded second for the French title he has never won, followed viewing of a video tape of the match against Testerman.

British freelance cameraman Tommy Hindley said McEnroe had kicked his camera lens, which bit in the face as he crouched in the photographer's position behind the backdrop.

At the time of the match umpire Boivin said he had not heard any verbal abuse although journalists present said they clearly heard McEnroe shouting at him.

The Grand Prix supervisors, who administer the players' code of conduct during tournaments, saw the video film after MIPTC administrator Marshall Happer arrived at the championships.



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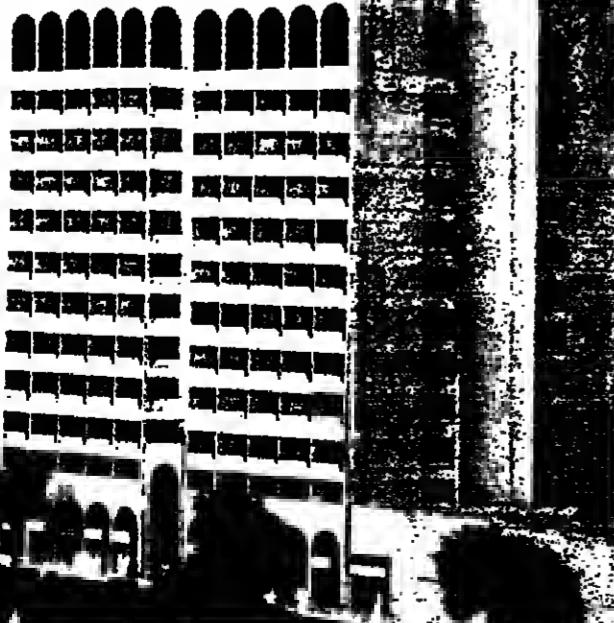
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— closing date to be at 12.00 noon on Saturday June 11, 1983.



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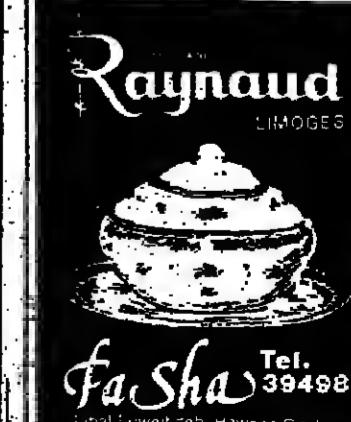
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REWARD

For finding a German shepherd, dog four years old, brownish knows his name. "Rocky" lost in the vicinity of 3rd Circle.



S. Arabia to invite fresh tenders for airport work

JEDDAH (R) — Saudi Arabia will invite fresh tenders for eight out of nine airport expansion projects in an effort to cut costs, an aviation official was quoted as saying Saturday.

Bids for the projects were invited last year, but many were over budget. Mr. Abdul Hamid Al Uyouni, assistant director of airport construction at the Saudi presidency of civil aviation, told Saudi Business magazine.

The move was prompted by a recent royal decree urging the government to announce tenders to be announced in public, Mr. Al Uyouni added.

The civil aviation presidency's budget has been cut to \$2.26 billion in the current fiscal year from \$3 billion last year.

Mr. Al Uyouni said the new policy would enable the presidency to select two contractors, one for the "land" work, mainly construction and other related utilities, and the other for "air" work for runways, aprons, taxways and related installations such as airfield lighting.

The new move is likely to affect Saudi companies and Saudi joint ventures primarily with Lebanese and Turkish interests.

Trade figures show Britain back in red

LONDON (R) — Britain's trade balance plunged into the red Friday and the opposition Labour Party accused the government of bankrupting the country.

But Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher's government, seeking another term in the June 9 general election, said last month's sharp rise in exports and fall in oil earnings was temporary.

Official figure released Friday showed that in April's visible trade, Britain imported goods worth £360 million (\$575 million) more than its exports.

March had shown a surplus of £384 million (\$614 million).

Including invisible earnings, like insurance premiums, the balance of payments showed a deficit of £180 million (\$288 million), compared with a March surplus of £565 million (\$902 million).

Mr. Peter Shore, Labour's economic spokesman, said "there can be little doubt that we shall finish the year deeply in the red."

"The Tories (Thatcher's Conservative Party) have devastated our manufacturing industry and are on their way to bankrupting Britain," Mr. Shore said.

The Conservative government has told the voters that, after a major recession, the economy has begun to recover.

Mrs. Thatcher's trade secretary, Lord Cockfield, said Friday that "our export trade is doing well. Of course the figures fluctuate from one month to another."

Iran seeks to increase cotton, wheat production

LONDON (R) — The Iranian government is offering farmers incentives of free fertiliser and other commodities in a drive to boost cotton and wheat output, the Iranian national news agency IRNA reported Saturday.

The agency, monitored in London, also quoted Agriculture Minister Mohammad Salama as saying his ministry's budget had been raised to about \$1.1 billion for this year, up 30 per cent on 1982.

He told the agency in an interview in Tabriz, east Azerbaijan province, that the government had raised the base price it paid farmers for cotton and wheat.

He gave no figures.

For every tonne of cotton sold to the government, farmers would receive 1.50 kilos (330 pounds) of chemical fertiliser and 40 kilos (88 pounds) of seed, as well as insecticide.

Farmers would also get 100 kilos (220 pounds) of fertiliser four kilos (8.8 pounds) of sugar and one kilo (2.2 pounds) of tea for each tonne of wheat sold to the government.

Fire destroys sugar plant

KOM OMBO, Egypt (R) — Fire at a factory in this southern Egyptian town Friday destroyed 31,000 tonnes of sugar, officials said. Seven workers were slightly injured while trying to extinguish the blaze, they added. The officials said it took fire brigades six hours to put out the blaze which also destroyed some installations.



Western leaders hope talks will chart way to recovery

WILLIAMSBURG, Virginia (R)

Leaders of the West's seven biggest industrial nations begin summit talks Saturday, hoping to build on signs of recovery after the worst global economic crisis in 50 years.

They also hope to avoid the acrimony which has flared at other summits since the annual cycle started nine years ago, and the bitter recriminations that followed last year's meeting at Versailles.

President Reagan and British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher, who taking time off briefly from an election campaign believe the tough monetary policies they share are beginning to help spark an economic upswing.

Tough talking possible

France's President Francois Mitterrand, the only socialist at the three-day conference, disagrees and his criticism of the U.S. for triggering high interest rates and currency instability could lead to some tough talking.

U.S. and other Western officials are confident, however, that careful advance planning and Mr. Reagan's insistence on an informal agenda-free debate will help skirt contentious issues and will produce at least a show of unity.

Key subjects for discussion are economic growth throughout the Western world, how to keep up the battle against inflation, and how to reduce trade barriers so that Third World countries can earn enough to pay off their massive debts.

Mr. Reagan will welcome the other leaders as they fly into historic Williamsburg, an old colonial town in the Virginia countryside where British rule is still recalled in a quaint setting of reconstructed homes and old-time costumes.

Mr. Thatcher and Mr. Mitterrand will be the last to arrive, following prime ministers Mr. Amintore Fanfani of Italy, Mr. Yasuhiro Nakasone of Japan, Mr. Pierre Trudeau of Canada, and Chancellor Helmut Kohl of West Germany.

They will each travel in horse-drawn carriages from Williamsburg's village green to tree-lined residence close to meeting places used by some of America's founding fathers.

The summit begins with a working dinner Saturday night which foreign and finance ministers will also attend and will end on Monday.

Because of the British election 11 days later, Mrs. Thatcher will break away on Sunday night to return home.

Some diplomats have predicted a "banal success" for a meeting which British officials say is likely to be marked by "sweetness and light" rather than discord.

The 1982 summit led to a bruising row over East-West trade.

This time, the trade issue has been sidetracked by allowing still-persisting arguments to be aired at lower-level meetings of "big seven" officials in the last few months.

French External Relations Minister Claude Cheysson says he hopes for a meeting "where people do not shout at each other, but listen to each other."

Mr. Mitterrand has been described by leading U.S. officials as a "wild card" whose advocacy of a new world monetary conference and staunch backing for more Third World aid could find him in a lone role.

Mr. Trudeau also is expected to urge that more should be done to help Asian, African and Latin American countries.

Officials say there is no chance of a big injection of extra aid funds at present.

Reagan may compromise

Mr. Reagan is expected to compromise with Mr. Mitterrand by agreeing to launch a study of a French proposal for global talks

on the lines of the 1944 Bretton Woods conference which set a fixed exchange rate system that lasted nearly 30 years.

"Our hope is that the French will be careful. We will be careful," a senior American diplomat said.

Although the emphasis will be on new growth, building on improved industrial activity and lower inflation in some of the seven countries, the leaders will also call for new efforts to curb unemployment, officials said.

U.S. economists believe recent signs of recovery will develop and that the world may be heading for better times in which both inflation and high U.S. interest rates will drop.

The summit leaders will spend about 10 hours in discussion, some of it alone with interpreters piping in translations from another room through earphones.

Messers. Kohl, Fanfani and Nakasone will be newcomers this year.

Mr. Gaston Thorn, president of the European community commission, will also be at the summit to speak for six of the 10 Common Market countries not directly represented.

Apart from economic issues, the agreed annual theme, the leaders will also discuss current world problems.

FORECAST FOR SUNDAY, MAY 29, 1983

YOUR DAILY Horoscope

from the Carroll Righter Institute

GENERAL TENDENCIES: The daytime is fine for engaging in favorite hobbies, amusements and other pleasures, while in the evening only serious and well-organized activities can be beneficial.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Take no undue risks where recreation is concerned early in the day. Enjoy outside affairs by using clever methods.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) Meeting persons of mixed backgrounds can prove interesting today. Take it easy tonight and restore your energies.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) Any responsibilities you have can now be handled in a most intelligent fashion. Be more cheerful in your activities.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to July 21) The day can be a most fascinating one visiting friends and relatives. Take no risks with your reputation.

LEO (July 22 to Aug. 21) You have much personal work to do now so postpone outside recreation for today. Be more optimistic about the future.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Put your finest talents to work in the afternoon and impress others favorably. Show more special devotion to loved one.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Look over your environment and take steps to make it more functional and charming. Improve your appearance.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Good day to enjoy the company of good friends. Be more willing to go along with their views and gain their goodwill.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Take time to study financial matters and plan to have greater abundance in the future. Express happiness.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Analyze your true ambitions and make plans to achieve them. Live according to your true philosophy.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) Quietly plan how to gain the personal aims that's most important to you. Rest tonight and renew your energies.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Permit your friends to show you a good time today which can open up new vistas of fun to you. Smile more and be happy.

IF YOUR CHILD IS BORN TODAY . . . be or she will do well at organizing public affairs and would be good in the event of any emergencies, so direct the education along broad lines for best results. Give good spiritual training early in life. One who will enjoy sports.

"The Stars impel, they do not compel." What you make of your life is largely up to you!

Late spring fever is sweeping London's commodity exchanges

LONDON (R) — Late spring fever is sweeping lavishly and prices are hitting their highest levels for years.

Bad weather in northern Europe and Ghana has boosted the prices of sugar and cocoa to two-year and three-year peaks while metals prices have also risen sharply, fuelled by hefty purchases particularly from China.

The markets, which just a year ago were gloomily coping with the lowest prices for years in the midst of world recession, have suddenly become buoyant.

"I don't know if the rises signal an end to world recession, I just don't want to miss out on the action," one trader said.

But several analysts said there was a new-found confidence on London's exchanges, historically key centres in the world's commodity trade, that future price trends would go up.

The price advances have been welcomed by developing countries, which have seen vital foreign exchange earnings from commodities checked off because of slow demand.

Commodity prices slumped in recent years as industrial production braked and living standards fell leading to huge stockpiles of soft commodities — rubber, cocoa, coffee and sugar and basic commodities — metals.

However a gradual whittling-down of surplus stocks and a growing belief of an upturn in the world economy this year have been major factors in sparking off the recent rally.

China could add nickel and other metals to its shopping list, metal dealers believe.

Peking has already returned as a buyer on the Far East rubber market.

China is key factor

A key factor in the advance in metals prices has been buying by China.

This month the London Metal Exchange (LME) has buzzed with rumours about industrial expansion in China.

So far this year Peking is estimated by dealers to have purchased more than 300,000 tonnes of copper, 100,000 tonnes of zinc and several thousand tonnes of aluminium.

Copper soared to a three-year high recently when it traded at £1,185 a tonne (84 cents per lb), some £20 (\$31) above its last

three-year high in February.

Last week aluminium, pushed by speculator confidence, hit £977 per tonne (69 cents per lb) approaching double its record low of £561 per tonne (40 cents per lb) only 18 months ago.

China could add nickel and other metals to its shopping list, metal dealers believe.

Peking has already returned as a buyer on the Far East rubber market.

Underlying trend is strong

Metal prices fell back slightly this week as some speculators took their profits, but dealers said the underlying trend was strong and they were expected to rise again shortly.

Recent forecasts appeared to support this view.

Amalgamated Metal Trading (AMT), in its latest review of prices, predicted that during the year prices for most metals would increase.

"Instead of talking about how far prices will go down most major trading houses are now charting just how far they think prices will

go up," one leading trader said.

AMT said LME prices for copper could climb as high as £1,350 per tonne (96 cents per lb) and aluminium may well hit £1,000 a tonne (71 cents per lb) by the end of the year.

Analysts cautiously predicted further trends in the soft commodities as well.

Sugar, boosted by problems with the rain-bit European beet crop, should stay buoyant and some analysts believe 1984 could see demand outstrip supply for the first time in three years.

Cuba is struggling to meet export commitments as wet weather has seriously damaged its crop.

If this year's Soviet crop also fails then Moscow could be forced on to the world market causing prices to rocket, some traders forecast.

But others were more cautious and said that big sugar stocks would halt any dramatic price surge.

Prices have even spiralled on the potato futures market to their highest-ever levels in busy trading after the wettest British April on record.

Peanuts



Mutt 'n' Jeff



Andy Capp



THE Daily Crossword

by Marvin Kenworthy

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WORLD

'Ukrainian boy's parents must return to the U.S.'

CHICAGO (R) — The parents of a Ukrainian boy who refused to return with them to the Soviet Union have won a court victory which may do them no good.

The Illinois Supreme Court ruled Friday that a lower court erred in 1980 when it declared Walter Polovchak a minor in need of supervision, making him a ward of the state.

Friday's decision held that family discord was not sufficient grounds to deprive Anna and Michael Polovchak of their son, Walter, now 15. The ruling restored custody to the parents — but only if they returned to the United States.

Walter's lawyers said they doubted the parents would return.

In 1980, Walter ran away from home as his family was preparing to return to the Ukraine after six months in the United States.

The manoeuvring could continue until Walter turned 18 and became legally free to make his own decisions.

U.S. scientists object to state's attempts at control

DETROIT (R) — American scientists are concerned about what they perceive as increased efforts by the federal government to control scientific information on the grounds of protecting national security.

Several scientists told a meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science that in the past few years the government had made unprecedented use of the Export Control Act and other laws to suppress scientific reports.

"The whole idea of controlling technology is rather new, although the regulations being used are old," Dr. Rosemary Chalk of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) told reporters on Thursday.

"It is an increasing concern," Dr. Harold Shapiro of the University of Michigan said. "Regulations to control technology have been interpreted recently to include scientific information."

He and other scientists said they were concerned because the suppression of free expression of ideas could severely hamper scientific progress.

They cited several recent incidents in which the government, specifically the Defense Department, demanded the withdrawal of papers to be presented at scientific meetings because of alleged "national security" considerations.

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN

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TELL PARTNER WHICH TRICKS TO CASH

East-West vulnerable. South deals.

NORTH
♦ 1072
♥ K Q J 10
♦ K 6
♦ Q 762

WEST
♦ A Q 63
♦ K 5
♦ 7
♦ A Q J 8 3
♦ 10 9 7 5 2
♦ 10 5 4
♦ K 3

SOUTH
♦ 9 8 4
♥ A 9 8 5 2
♦ 4
♦ A K J 9

The bidding has proceeded: South West North East 1 ♠ Dblt Rdbl Pass Pass 2 0 4 ♠ Pass Pass Pass Opening lead: Seven of ♠.

Dear Charlie:
Well, the North Americans almost made a clean sweep of the titles at the World Olympiad. After taking the Mixed, Women's and Open Pairs, a U.S. squad lost by a whisker to my French friends in the final of the Rosenthal team event. In addition, the Canadian team won the Swiss team event.

Despite the magnificent performance by your players, the talk of Biarritz was the strong performance of the four-man Spanish team — to be exact, three men and a woman. They had a consid-

Recent events signal turn in U.S.-C. American plans

WASHINGTON (R) — U.S. Central American policy has taken two new turns with announcements of a key personnel change and plans to train Salvadorean government troops in neighbouring Honduras.

Both announcements were made in Washington Friday.

Secretary of State George Shultz said Thomas Enders, a leading figure in the administration's controversial Central American policy, would move to another high diplomatic post.

He will be succeeded by Langhorn Motley, the Brazilian-born U.S. ambassador to Brazil.

State and Defense Department officials, meanwhile, said about 100 U.S. military advisers would be sent to Honduras probably in June or July, to train 2,400 Salvadorean over the next six months.

The officials described the plan, which calls for a regional training centre to be set up in Honduras, during a news briefing on perceived Soviet, Cuban and Nicaraguan efforts to topple governments in the region.

The officials described the training plan as a less costly alti-

ernative to training in the United States for the U.S.-backed Salvadorean forces who are battling leftist rebels.

In addition, 525 Salvadorean officer candidates would be trained in the United States and advisers, limited to a maximum of 55, would continue to operate in El Salvador.

Mr. Shultz said the conduct of Salvadorean troops already trained by the United States had been good with respect to civilian populations, adding that the officers appeared to be paying off.

El Salvador amnesty

SAN SALVADOR (R) — El Salvador's government has released nearly 100 political prisoners in the past week, including eight prominent leftist leaders, under the country's new amnesty law, amnesty commission officials said.

Monsignor Freddy Delgado, a member of the government's human rights and amnesty commission, said that as of Friday the government had granted 260 requests for amnesty from political prisoners.

Private human rights com-

mission spokesmen said Friday most of the people who have sought amnesty are also trying to leave the country because they do not believe the government will protect them.

Peace talks open

PANAMA CITY (R) — Nine Latin American foreign ministers armed with a United Nations mandate to end Central American bloodshed opened three days of peace talks here Saturday.

The conference, sponsored by Mexico, Venezuela, Colombia and Panama — the so-called Contadora group — seeks to launch intricate peace talks among the ministers of the five Central American nations involved, foreign ministry spokesman Jose Mon-

ta said.

The Contadora group, named after the Panamanian island where it initiated its peace efforts last January, faces the challenge of forging the Central American negotiations quickly enough to avert the mounting peril of war between Nicaragua and its neigbours.

6 men, 1 woman to discuss, not solve, problems in Williamsburg

WILLIAMSBURG, Virginia (R)

— The countries attending the economic summit here this weekend are pursuing different goals and despite an expected show of unity, at least some of the seven leaders are likely to go home unsatisfied.

In summary, here is what the individual participants would like to achieve if they could have their way:

United States — as host, President Reagan will want to ensure Germany's long-standing interest in trade with the Eastern bloc.

Chancellor Helmut Kohl wants to avert any repetition of the bitter dispute on this at last year's summit in Versailles. He shares Mr. Reagan's views on monetary reform and, like the latter, opposes protectionism. Mr. Kohl would also like the U.S. president to give him some sign of flexibility on arms control to take to Moscow in July.

France — Prime Minister Yves-Michel Chirac will want to stop the other participants putting concerted pressure on Japan to ease its trade restrictions and permit more imports. Critics also accuse

Japan of making its exports too cheap by overvaluing the yen artificially.

The other leaders are likely to prefer a study on the monetary system rather than a full-scale conference, and the United States will probably show little willingness to change its economic policies.

West Germany — because of

Germany's long-standing interest in trade with the Eastern bloc.

Canada — Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau, who has to run an economy heavily influenced by that of the United States, is highly critical of Mr. Reagan on both economic and foreign policy issues. He has repeatedly attacked high U.S. interest rates and wants to see more aid for Third World countries.

Britain — Prime Minister Thatcher is one of Mr. Reagan's strongest backers and although she also worries about the U.S. deficit, she agrees in essence with his economic approach.

Italy — Prime Minister Amintore Fanfani shares with Mr. Reagan and Mrs. Thatcher a desire for concord. He agrees that high U.S. interest rates are too high and that currency fluctuations are disturbing, but he thinks it may be too early for the full-blown monetary conference proposed by Mr. Mitterrand.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Japanese divers find schoolgirl's body

TOKYO (R) — Divers found the body of a schoolgirl swept away by a tidal wave, bringing the known death toll to 49 with a further 53 people still missing, police said.

Akiko Ito, 10, was one of a party of 13 children swept off a beach at Oga City on northern Honshu Island and when an undersea earthquake caused a three metre tidal wave against Japan's northwestern coast on Thursday. The other 12 bodies were recovered earlier.

The meteorological agency in Tokyo has warned that another strong earthquake could hit northern Japan in the next few days.

China awards historic doctorates

PEKING (R) — The first doctorates of philosophy from Chinese universities since the political upheavals of the sixties have been awarded by Premier Zhao Ziyang, the People's Daily said Saturday.

The doctorates are all in science, which like every area of learning was virtually destroyed during the extreme leftist movement in the late sixties and early seventies. The problems of study then are reflected in the maturity of the group, the oldest being 44, the youngest 34. One, Zhang Yinnan, worked as a lumberjack but studied alone during the disorders. His thesis is "on the theory of quasi-invariant measures for a non-locally compact group."

Dhaka has worst infant mortality rate

DHAKA (R) — Bangladesh has the world's highest infant mortality rate with more than two of every five babies dying within 28 days of birth, Health Minister Shamsul Huq said.

U.S. takes steps to curb hijacks

MIAMI (R) — Armed U.S. marshals are flying again aboard randomly selected airline flights to foil hijack attempts, the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) said. Officials refused to say how many marshals were taking part in the revised operation. Marshal Hector Gonzalez told a press conference they would take "whatever action necessary" if they encountered a hijacker.

Rhine floods swamp Cologne

COLOGNE, West Germany (R) — Flood waters from the rain-swollen River Rhine swamped the "old city" quarter of Cologne Saturday for the second time in six weeks. The river, barred to waterway traffic Friday, breached dykes early Saturday afternoon and flooded offices, clubs and boutiques near the city's historic twin-spired cathedral. Officials said the Rhine was rising Saturday by four centimetres an hour. Roads were already flooded in the vulnerable Beuel and Mehlheim districts of Bonn.

Ex-Argentine leader reportedly released

BUENOS AIRES (R) — Former Argentine President Leopoldo Galtieri has been released from detention at an army camp on the outskirts of Buenos Aires, the independent news agency Noticias Argentinas said. The agency quoted military sources as saying Gen. Galtieri was released Thursday night after serving 45-days' detention imposed by army commander Cristino Nicolaiades. The report could not be immediately confirmed by other sources.

Rembrandt painting stolen for 4th time

LONDON (R) — A painting by Rembrandt has been stolen from a London gallery for the fourth time in 16 years. Police said the portrait of Jacob de Gheyn III was taken from Dulwich College art gallery in South London Friday night. The painting, owned by the gallery since 1810, was first stolen in 1967. It was recovered a week later, stolen again briefly in 1973 and taken a third time in 1981 but recovered a few days later. The portrait was estimated in 1981 to be worth £1 million (\$1.6 million).

Arab-Americans exchange views with U.S. officials

WASHINGTON (Agencies) — A 22-member delegation representing five Arab-American organisations met with U.S. Deputy Secretary of State Kenneth Dam and other senior officials at the U.S. State Department last Wednesday.

The delegation exchanged views and information on the May 17 Lebanon-Israeli agreement for withdrawal of all foreign troops from Lebanon.

Robert D. Joseph, president of the National Association of Arab Americans (NAAA), described the briefing as "very cordial."

"We commend the Department of State for providing this opportunity for the Arab-American community to be briefed on Secretary George Shultz's shuttle mission in the Middle East, the Lebanon-Israeli troop withdrawal agreement and prospects for a broad Middle East settlement," Mr. Joseph told the State Department.

State Department officials participating in the briefing included: Kenneth Dam; Nicholas Velonis, assistant secretary for Near Eastern and South Asian affairs; Wat Cluverius, Tom Nasif and Robert Pelletreau, deputy assistant secretaries for Near Eastern and South Asian affairs; Richard Fairbanks, special United States negotiator for Middle East peace, and Molly Williamson, Jordan desk officer at the State Department.

Other groups present at the briefing included representatives of the American Arab anti-Discrimination Committee (ADC), the American Lebanese League, federation of Ramallah, Palestine; and the Palestine Congress of North America.

Puerto Rican extremist recaptured in Mexico

NEW YORK (R) — Fugitive Puerto Rican extremist Willie Morales, who has eluded authorities since escaping from a New York jail four years ago, has been recaptured in Mexico, police and Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) officials said.

They said one person was killed and two Mexican policemen were severely injured in a gunbattle that began Friday while Morales and two associates were being driven to jail in Puebla, about 100 kilometres east of Mexico City.

Morales was convicted in 1978 as the bombmaker for the Puerto Rican extremist group, the FALN (armed forces of national liberation).

He had been apprehended after an explosion in a FALN bomb fac-

tory in which he lost the fingers of both hands and the sight in one eye.

He escaped from a New York City jail in 1979 using a ladder made of bedsheet.

They said one person was killed and two Mexican policemen were severely injured and one of the people arrested with Morales was killed. The third suspect escaped.

Lester said Morales' extradition to the U.S. would be sought. He has been sentenced in the U.S. to more than 30 years in jail on a variety of charges.

Ethiopian hierarchy may be drawn up along party lines

WASHINGTON (R) — Ethiopia's ruling military council may give way to a new Communist Party body but the military plans to remain in control. U.S. intelligence sources said Saturday.

The sources said the government of Col. Mengistu Haile Mariam had established a national defence and security council to maintain the military's grip on the country.

Intelligence analysts viewed Col. Mengistu's decision to create the defence and security council as a reaction to growing disenchantment in Addis Ababa with his handling of the rebellions north of the capital.

They said the new council would substitute for the current Provisional Military Administrative Council (PMAC) headed by Col. Mengistu until it was dissolved in favour of the new Communist set-up.

They believed the council would substitute for the current Provisional Military Administrative Council (PMAC) headed by Col. Mengistu until it was dissolved in favour of the new Communist set-up.

The sources said the new council would enable Col. Mengistu to retain control of the government and its 300,000-strong army.

Col. Mengistu, 48, has ruled Ethiopia with his junta since 1974

when he overthrew emperor Haile Selassie.

The intelligence report followed his move earlier this month to strengthen his hand through a cabinet shuffle.

Despite large-scale aid from the Soviet Union, including \$2 billion in arms, the government is plagued by economic decline and long-running rebellions in several provinces.

Intelligence analysts viewed Col. Mengistu's decision to create the defence and security council as a reaction to growing disenchantment in Addis Ababa with his handling of the rebellions north of the capital.

They said the new council was headed by Brig.-Gen. Muluat Negash, former commander of the eastern command, which includes the rebellious Ogaden region.

The council, which was responsible to Col. Mengistu, also included Fikre Selassie, secretary-general of PMAC, and the ministers of defence, interior and public and national security.

Top opposition leaders in Zimbabwe ordered held indefinitely without trial

HARARE (R) — Leading figures in Joshua Nkomo's opposition ZAPU Party who were cleared of treason charges last month but immediately redetained, have been ordered to be held indefinitely without trial.

A spokesman for the home affairs (interior) ministry said Friday night that indefinite detention orders had been made under emergency powers against Dumiso Dabengwa, former intelligence chief of Mr. Nkomo's Rhodesian War guerrilla forces, former Zimbabwe army deputy commander Lt. Gen. Lookout Masuku and four other ZAPU officials.

Under section 17 of emergency powers regulations, introduced by the white minority rulers of the former Rhodesia but maintained by the Zimbabwe government of Prime Minister Robert Mugabe, a person may be detained "if it app-

ears... that it is expedient in the interests of safety or public order."

The six were arrested in March last year and later charged with treason and illegal possession of arms of war after weapons were found on ZAPU-connected properties. They were all acquitted by the high court at the end of last month, but were not allowed to leave prison.

The arms finds and arrests of top ZAPU men formed a cornerstone of accusations by Mr. Mugabe that Mr. Nkomo and his party were plotting a coup.

Mr. Nkomo fled into self-exile in Britain last month, saying Mr. Mugabe had ordered him to be killed and his Matabeleland-based party crushed in preparation for a one-party state. The government denied this and said Mr. Nkomo,